

Message Text

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12/11

ORIGIN EUR-12

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R 052319Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 267514

VISAS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y : 2 L I N E S O M I T T E D P A R A 1

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:CVIS, CGEN, PFOR, SREF, UR, IS

SUBJECT:EMBASSY ASSISTANCE O SOVIET REFUGEES

REF: A) MOSCOW 16616 D) MOSCOW 6215 OF 5/26/74

B) MOSCOW 16463 E) STATE 82048 OF 5/23/74

C) MOSCOW 15821 F) STATE 11998 OF 1/21/72

1. DEPT AND INS CONCUR THAT EMB SHOULD RESTRICT USE OF PRO
FORMA VISA SOLELY TO INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE EXIT CISA FOR US.
THIS WOULD INCLUDE DUAL NATIONALS UNABLE TO EXIT USSR WITH
US PASSPORT; ALIENS UNABLE TO COMPLETE VISA APPLICATION IN
MOSCOW BECAUSE OF LIMITED VALIDITY OF SOVIET EXIT VISA;
ACCOMPANYING FAMILY MEMBERS OF US-BOUND IMMIGRANTS UNABLE
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TO QUALIFY FOR IMMIGRANT VISA IN MOSCOW (SO-CALLED FIRESIDE

RELATIVES); SOVIET JEWS OR MEMBERS OF OTHER OPPRESSED MINORITY GROUPS WHO HAVE EXIT DOCUMENTS FOR US BUT ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN IV; AND EMIGRANTS ISSUED IMMIGRANT VISAS BY EMB.

2. ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DECISION CITED IN PARAGRAPH THREE OF REFTEL C EXTENDS ONLY TO ALIENS SEEKING TO LEAVE USSR WHO HAVE EXIT VISA AND PASSPORT VALID FOR TRAVEL TO US. ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DECISION DOES NOT EMBRACE ALIENS WHO HAVE SOVIET EXIT VISAS FOR THIRD COUNTRIES. INDEED, REFTEL

C ASSUMED A SOVIET REQUIREMENT THAT IMMIGRANT VISA ISSUED TO SOVIET APPLICANT MUST COINCIDE WITH COUNTRY OF DESTINATION SPECIFIED IN SOVIET EXIT VISA.

3. DEPT ASSUMED, PER PARAGRAPH ONE OF REFTEL D, THAT EMB ISSUED PRO FORMA STAMP TO EMIGRANTS WITH EXIT DOCUMENTS FOR ISRAEL ONLY WHEN SUCH EMIGRANTS EXPRESSED STRONG PREFERENCE FOR STAMP. PARAGRAPH SIX OF REFTEL C SUGGESTS THAT EMB AFFIXED PRO FORMA STAMP IN PASSPORTS OF EMIGRANTS WITH EXIT VISAS FOR ISRAEL ON ROUTINE BASIS. PLS CLARIFY.

4. IN ANY EVENT, MINISTER COUNSELOR PEDAHZUR OF ISRAELI EMB NOV 20 AGAIN RAISED PROBLEM OF PRO FORMA STAMP WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE (STATE 69518 OF APRIL 5, 1974 REPORTS FIRST ISRAELI DEMARCHE ON THIS TOPIC; STATE 259199, SENT INFO TO MOSCOW, OUTLINES SECOND DEMARCHE).

5. NOTING THE INCREASING NUMBERS OF SOVIET JEWS WITH EXIT VISAS FOR ISRAEL WHO CHANGE COURSE IN VIENNA, PEDAHZUR SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WAS "URGENTLY CONCERNED" THAT SOVIET AUTHORITIES WOULD USE FACT OF POSSESSION OF US IMMIGRANT VISA STAMP BY SOVIETS WHO HAD APPLIED FOR EXIT PERMISSION TO ISRAEL AS DEVICE FOR HARASSING INDIVIDUAL EMIGRANTS AS WELL AS RATIONALE FOR IMPOSING NEW RESTRICTIONS ON GRANTING EXIT VISAS FOR ISRAEL.

6. PEDAHZUR GAVE ARMITAGE PHOTOSTATIC COPIES OF FOUR VISA
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STAMPS ISSUED BY EMB MOSCOW ON OCT 16 TO LEONID BLIKH, LIANA LEVENBERG, GUNAR NARUBIN AND BEBA ROTENBERG. HE ASKED IF US POLICY REGARDING PRO FORMA VISAS HAD CHANGED.

7. IN LIGHT OF RENEWED ISRAELI CONCERN, AND FACT THAT NEITHER PRO FORMA VISA NOR EMB LETTER SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTS EMIGRANTS' CHANCES OF COMING TO US, EMB SHOULD DISCONTINUE ISSUANCE OF LETTER PROPOSED IN REFTEL A AS

WELL AS PRO FORMA VISAS FOR IMMIGRANTS WITH SOVIET EXIT VISAS FOR TRAVEL TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

8. AS OUTLINED IN STATE 82048 OF APRIL 23, EMB SHOULD EXPLAIN TO THOSE EMIGRANTS WITH EXIT VISAS FOR THIRD COUNTRIES WHO REQUEST DOCUMENTATION FROM EMB THAT US DOCUMENTATION IS (A) UNNECESSARY, BECAUSE APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES REGARDING POSSIBLE EMIGRATION TO US HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT WITH ALL CONCERNED PARTIES IN VIENNA AND ROME,

AND (B) NOT ADVISABLE, BECAUSE IT WOULD ENABLE SOVIETS TO CHARGE THAT PROCEDURES FOR EMIGRATING WERE IMPROPERLY USED FOR UNAUTHORIZED TRAVEL TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

9. EMB MAY OF COURSE ORALLY ADVISE EMIGRANTS THAT INS ROME WILL ACCEPT APPLICANTS FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY TO US, PROVIDED APPLICANT IS ADMISSABLE UNDER PROVISIONS OF INA FOR SUCH ENTRY, AND THAT ONLY INS CAN MAKE DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER US.

10. EMB SHOULD NOT ADVISE IMMIGRANTS WITH EXIT PERMISSION TO THIRD COUNTRY TO APPLY TO INS ROME FOR PAROLE INTO US (REFTELS A AND B). INS REQUESTS THAT EMB DISCOURAGE TRAVEL TO INS ROME OF POTENTIAL APPLICANTS WITH LIKELY VISA INELIGIBILITIES. IF IT NONETHELESS SEEMS LIKELY THAT SUCH APPLICANTS WILL APPLY ROME, EMB SHOULD AS PREVIOUSLY TRANSMIT TO ROME WHATEVER INFO IS AVAILABLE ABOUT THEM. KISSINGER

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